

Citizen Police Advisory Review Board Minutes

The Citizen's Police Advisory Review Board (CPARB) met on Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at 5:30 p.m. at the Main Library, Basement, 101 N. Stone Avenue, Tucson, Arizona.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Members Present:	Representing:
Susan Thornton, Chair	Mayor
Susanne Elefante	Ward 2
Cynthia Schiesel	Ward 4
Joaquin Murrieta, Vice Chair	Ward 5
Barbara O'Brien	Ward 6

Members Absent:

Jennifer Lopez Ward 3

Advisory Members Present:

Karen Brandel Kathleen May Stephen Nekolek Geoffrey Boyce

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Present:

Captain Bob Shoun, Tucson Police Department Lieutenant Vicki Reza, Tucson Police Department Robert Barton, Police Auditor

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Absent:

Sergeant Paul Sayre, Tucson Police Department Liana Perez, Police Auditor

Others Present:

Baird Greene, City Attorney's Office
Captain Perry Tarrant, Tucson Police Department
Lieutenant Wes Dison, Tucson Police Department
Lieutenant Jeff Coleman, Tucson Police Department
Sergeant Sharon Callan, Tucson Police Department
Officer Jen Howell, Tucson Police Department
Officer Scott Cuffe, Tucson Police Department
Tony Zavala, guest
Nilo Ratoff, guest
Ana Smith, Recording Secretary, City Clerk's Office

2. Ward One appointee opening

Chair Thornton announced the Ward 1 CPARB's opening; if interested, submit an application to Boards and Commissions at the City Clerk's office.

3. Approval of Minutes from Meeting of February 19, 2008

Motion by Chair Thornton, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 5 to 0 to approve the minutes of February 19, 2008, with corrections: (Jennifer Lopez Absent / excused)

Item 12: #21- Susanne Elefante was asking for clarification from the Tucson Police Department on this issue.

Item 14: scrivener's error, Susan Thorton Susan Thornton.

4. First Call to the Audience

There were no speakers.

5. Report from TPD on Special Events Coordination of Public and Private Parties/Events including noise ordinance and red tag procedures.

Captain Perry Tarrant gave an overview of special events. He explained the City did not require or mandate the need for a permit for special events, other than a parade requiring special needs from the City.

Lieutenant Wes Dison gave a brief summary on the breakdown of officers needed at a special or civic event.

Lieutenant Jeff Coleman and Officer Scott Cuffe gave a brief summary of the Tucson City Code Statutes and Noise Ordinances, problems, and complaints. They explained how the Tucson Police Department (TPD) used a noise meter to see if the noise complaint was valid, and if necessary issued a red tag.

6. Office of the Independent Auditor

A. Outreach Report: Report of public outreach efforts by the Office of the Independent Police Auditor during the previous month.

Robert Barton, Police Auditor, stated that a presentation was given for the Citizens' Police Academy, hosted at the Police Academy facility. Another presentation was given to the Post Basic Academy for those officers that finished their basic training and post training, and were in the TPD Academy. They were given training on specific issues before being deployed to the street.

A presentation was given to youth members at the Eon "Lounge" Youth Center for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT), to better understand the interactions with law enforcement. Assistant Police Chief Sharon Allen and Assistant Police Chief John Leavitt were at the event to provide discussion with the youth that were in attendance. Lieutenant Jeff Coleman participated in a Northern Arizona University (NAU) communications class where he spoke about the complaint process through the Office Independent Police Auditor's (IPA).

B. Monthly Contacts: Report on TPD-related contacts by members of the public with the office of the Independent Police Auditor (IPA) during the previous month.

Robert Barton, Police Auditor, stated the office received eight inquiries, five complaints, and conducted a review of twenty-nine files that were closed by Internal Affairs. Mr. Barton performed random reviews of ten fair and thorough closed cases that were previously investigated by Internal Affairs.

7. Tucson Police Department:

A. Tucson Police Department (TPD) Updates: Updates regarding events or developments relating to TPD during the prior month.

No report given.

B. Office of Internal Affairs/Updates regarding events or developments relating to the Office of Internal Affairs during the prior month.

No report given.

8. Random Review of TPD Investigations:

1. Case #07-0575

Motion by Joaquin Murrieta, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 5 to 0, to find Case #07-0575 to be a fair and thorough investigation. (Jennifer Lopez absent / excused)

2. Case #07-0684

Motion by Cynthia Schiesel, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 5 to 0, to find Case #07-0684 to be a fair and thorough investigation. (Jennifer Lopez absent / excused)

3. Case #07-0706

Motion by Cynthia Schiesel, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 5 to 0, to find Case #07-0706 to be a fair and thorough investigation. (Jennifer Lopez absent / excused)

9. Recess

Motion by Susanne Elefante, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 5 to 0, to forego recess. (Jennifer Lopez absent / excused)

10. Review of Citizen Comments submitted to Mayor and Council in reference to TPD for February 2008.

- #2 A concerned citizen wrote that there was an ongoing problem of dogs being off leashes in Santa Rosa Park. The Board asked if there was anything park officials could do to enforce the leash law in this area. It was stated that the park officials could say something to the owner, but the enforcement would have to come from a police officer or Pima Animal Care Center officer.
- #7 The Board asked if the TPD had a unit set up to deal with the mentally ill. There was a unit of trained officers called The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) who had gone through forty hours of training, and who were equipped to handle those situations.
- #9 The caller was upset about the death of a citizen hit by a speeding police officer, and asked why the officer was allowed back to work. The board asked if the Pima County Attorney's Office had closed the investigation. The Pima County Attorney's office issued a letter of declamation indicating that they would not purse a felony criminal charge in the matter, and a civil speeding citation was issued to the officer.

11. Second Call to the Audience

Nilo Ratoff spoke about today's legal system.

12. Report from the Chair / Announcements

- Select a subcommittee on Training Day.
- Encourage CPARB's members to write to the Mayor and Council on the City's budget for public safety.
- Certificate of Appreciation was given to Cynthia Schiesel for serving as the CPARB's Chairperson for the past two years.

13. Future Agenda Items

- Process for selection of a new Chief of Police.
- Update on the Cold Cases Unit.
- Community Outreach.
- Process for an officer response to complaints from citizens.

14. Adjournment: 6:55 p.m.

Motion by Joaquin Murrieta, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 5 to 0, to adjourn the CPARB meeting. (Jennifer Lopez absent/excused)